

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method of treating otitis media in a mammal comprising administering to the mammal an effective amount of alpha one-antitrypsin.

2. The method of claim 1 further comprising administering an effective amount of an antibiotic.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein the alpha one-antitrypsin is administered in a liquid.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein the alpha one-antitrypsin is administered as a dry powder.

5. The method of claim 1 further comprising administering an effective amount of a steroid.

6. The method of claim 1 wherein the mammal is a human.

7. The method of claim 1 wherein the mammal to be treated has a perforated tympanic membrane.

8. The method of claim 7 wherein the perforated tympanic membrane is due to tympanostomy.

9. The method of claim 7 or claim 8 wherein the mammal is a human.

10. The method of claim 1 wherein the otitis media is selected from the group consisting of recurrent acute otitis media (RAOM), chronic otitis media with effusion

(COME), acute post-tympanostomy otorrhea (APTO), chronic suppurative otitis media (CSOM), and choleostoma.

11. The method of claim 10 wherein the type of otitis media is APTO or CSOM.

12. The method of claim 11 further comprising administering an effective amount of an antibiotic.